Catskills, or Shendaken mountains. He finds that they include the highest points, the Slide mountain reaching 4205 feet above tide water, and the Panther 3828. The region is an almost unbroken forest in spite of its proximity to the great centers of population. As to structure, the beds show weak plications whose axes are parallel with those of the Allegheny system, but the mountain ranges were at right angles to the system, or from north-west to south-east. This anomaly is explained by the fact that they are results of erosion. The general level descends westwards.

MICROSCOPY.[1]

MICROSCOPY AT THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.—There is reason to believe that the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, which is to convene at Boston, on the 25th of August, will be a memorable gathering, as well for its scientific and social character as for the numbers in attendance at its sessions. It is expected that the old sub-sections will be maintained, and new ones organized. The large number of distinguished scholars, at Boston and vicinity, can hardly fail to give to the sub-section of microscopy a special prominence and importance this year. Ample arrangements have been made for the convenience of this department. The Physical and Biological Laboratories of the Institute of Technology have been secured for its use; also rooms for the safe keeping of instruments, and for the giving of lectures, screen projections, &c. Communications in regard to membership, or the scientific work of the meeting, should be addressed to the present chairman of the sub section, Prof. S. A. Lattimore, Rochester, N. Y.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MICROSCOPISTS.—This Society will meet at Detroit; August 19, according to plans previously announced. A large meeting is expected. The proceedings of last year's meeting have been issued and distributed. A supply of extra copies were published, which can be obtained at a reasonable price, by addressing the Secretary, Dr. Henry Jameson, Indianapolis, Indiana. Instead of the medal offered last year for the best specimens illustrating some common adulteration, the donor will substitute, with consent of the winner, the superb half-inch objective now made by the Bausch and Lomb Optical Co, having nearly 100 degrees aperture and capable of resolving *P. angulata.* This is a great improvement on the original offer.

"SCIENCE"—A new weekly scientific journal is announced under this title. It is designed to have somewhat the character of the English "*Nature.*" Astronomy will be the most prominent feature, but it is proposed to give adequate room to microscopical news. The editor's address is P. O. Box 3838, New York.

[1] This department is edited by Dr. R. H. WARD, Troy, N. Y.

MICROSCOPISTS' ANNUAL.—The first number (for 1879) of this little manual, has just been issued by the publishers of the American Journal of Microscopy. In addition to lists of Microscopical Societies, manufacturers, dealers, &c., it contains much miscellaneous information of interest to microscopists, in regard to weights, measures, postal regulations, magnifying powers, etc. Being unable to obtain recent information in all cases, the lists are partly based upon old data with the hope of correcting them in subsequent editions.

SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

— Caleb Cooke died in Salem, Mass., June 5, 1880, aged 42 years and 4 months, of typhoid malarial, the result of disease contracted at Zanzibar. Mr. Cooke was for some time a pupil of Agassiz. In 1859 he went to Para, South America, and afterwards to Zanzibar and Madagascar, remaining for about two years on the eastern coast of Africa, sending important collections to Agassiz's museum. The insects collected by him in Zanzibar, largely formed the materials for Gerstaecker's volume on the insects of Zanzibar. He was one of the curators of the Essex Institute, and at the time of his death the curator of Mollusca in the Peabody Academy, and was one of the most zealous of its officers from the date of its foundation. Mr. Cooke was an excellent and indefatigable collector and rendered most valuable assistance to investigations. He did much in local zoölogy. Though he was not a productive student of nature, he was, however, one of those useful, unselfish naturalists, with an ardent love of nature, who are careless of their own reputation, and aid in building up the fame of others. Mr. Cooke rendered important services to the U. S. Fish Commission for several seasons, when dredging in deep water was carried on in the Gulf of Maine, aboard the U. S. Coast Survey Steamer *Bache;* he explored Mammoth cave, and one of the most interesting of the insects inhabiting that grotto was dedicated to him, as were other insects discovered elsewhere by him. He also, in 1875, was an assistant of the Geological Survey of Indiana.

Mr. Cooke wrote but little; he contributed several notes to the NATURALIST, and in the early years of its history was a most enthusiastic and laborious assistant in the office work of this magazine. The writer of this notice mourns his loss, as the faithful friend of many years, who was unwearied in well doing, amiable, if sometimes with a grain of eccentricity, philanthropical, and unfailing in all the minor courtesies and kindnesses that render one's everyday life worth living.

— The School Board of Newton, Mass., have engaged Mr. J. Walter Fewkes to deliver a course of lectures on natural history to the public schools. So far as we are aware this is the first course of lectures on zoölogy to teachers, as well as students,